

# BETH LEW-WILLIAMS

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## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2019-present Associate Professor, Department of History, Princeton University  
2014-2019 Assistant Professor; Philip and Beulah Rollins Bicentennial Preceptor  
Department of History, Princeton University  
2012-2014 ACLS New Faculty Fellow / Visiting Assistant Professor  
Department of History & Program in Asian American Studies  
Northwestern University

## EDUCATION

2011 Ph.D. in History, Stanford University  
2006 M.A. in History, Stanford University  
2004 A.B. in History with Honors, *Magna cum laude*, Brown University

## AWARDS, HONORS & FELLOWSHIPS

### EXTERNAL

2019 Ray Allen Billington Prize (biennial award for best book on the frontier, border, or borderlands), Organization of American Historians  
2019 Ellis W. Hawley Prize (best book on the political economy, politics, or institutions of the United States), Organization of American Historians  
2019 Sally and Ken Owens Prize (best book on the Pacific West), Western History Association  
2019 Vincent P. DeSantis Book Prize (biennial award for best first book on US history between 1865-1920), Society for Historians of the Gilded Age & Progressive Era  
2019 Caroline Bancroft History Prize (American West), Denver Public Library  
2019 Finalist, Berkshire Conference of Women Historians Book Prize (first book in any field of history)  
2018 Ray Allen Billington Prize (best article in the field of Western history in any journal other than the *Western Historical Quarterly*), Western History Association  
2018 Jensen-Miller Award (best article in the field of women and gender in the North American West), Western History Association  
2018 Vicki L. Ruiz Award (best article on race in the North American West), Western History Association

2017-2018 Mellon Foundation Sawyer Seminar: "Global Migration: The Humanities and Social Sciences in Dialogue," with Sandra Bermann (PI), Patricia Fernandez-Kelly, Stephen Macedo, Douglas Massey, Joe Stephens, and Michael Wood  
 2015-2016 Harry Frank Guggenheim Grant  
 2015-2016 Visitor, School of Social Science, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, NJ  
 2015 James Madison Prize (best article on the history of the federal government), Society for History in the Federal Government  
 2012-2014 ACLS New Faculty Fellowship  
 2010-2011 Andrew W. Mellon Foundation/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship  
 2004-2005 Woodrow Wilson Fellowship Foundation / Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Fellowship in Humanistic Studies

#### **PRINCETON**

2018 University Committee on Research in the Humanities and Social Sciences Grant  
 2017-2020 Philip and Beulah Rollins Bicentennial Preceptorship  
 2017-2018 Humboldt-Princeton Strategic Partnership Grant: "Contesting and Converging Stories of Global Order: Regional and National Narratives," co-PI with Jeremy Adelman, Andreas Eckert, and Vincent Houben

#### **NORTHWESTERN**

2013-2014 Faculty Affiliate, Alice Kaplan Institute in the Humanities

#### **UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN, MADISON**

2009-2011 Honorary Fellow, Institute for Research in the Humanities

#### **STANFORD**

2011 Vice Provost for Graduate Education Academic Achievement Award  
 2011 Asian American Community Graduate Research Award  
 2010-2011 Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Dissertation Fellowship (declined)  
 2010 George P. Shultz Writing Grant in Canadian Studies  
 2008-2009 George P. Shultz Research Grant in Canadian Studies  
 2008 Centennial Teaching Award  
 2008 Center for Teaching and Learning Grant  
 2007 Diversity Dissertation Research Grant

#### **BROWN**

2004 Gaspee Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution Prize for Best Paper in American History  
 2003 Student Research Grant

## PUBLICATIONS

### BOOKS

*John Doe Chinaman: Race and Law in the American West* (in preparation)

*The Chinese Must Go: Violence, Exclusion, and the Making of the Alien in America*, Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press (2018). *Winner*: OAH Ellis W. Hawley Prize; OAH Ray Allen Billington Prize; WHA Sally and Ken Owens Prize; SHGPE Vincent P. DeSantis Prize; *Finalist*: Berkshire Conference of Women Historians Book Prize; Forthcoming in Chinese translation (Social Sciences Academic Press, 2020).

### ARTICLES

"Paper Lives of Chinese Migrants and the History of the Undocumented in America" (revise and resubmit).

"Global Narratives of 'the Immigrant'" with Megan Armknecht and Markus Bierkoch (in preparation).

"'Chinamen' and 'Delinquent Girls': Intimacy, Exclusion, and a Search for California's Color Line," *Journal of American History* (December 2017): 632-655. *Winner*: WHA Ray Allen Billington Prize, WHA Jensen-Miller Prize, & WHA Vicki Ruiz Prize

"Before Restriction Became Exclusion: America's Experiment in Diplomatic Immigration Control," *Pacific Historical Review* 83, no. 1 (February 2014): 24-56. *Winner*: SHFG James Madison Prize.

### BOOK CHAPTERS

"The Remarkable Life of a Sometime Railroad Worker: Chin Gee Hee, 1844-1929" in Gordon H. Chang and Shelley Fisher Fishkin, *The Chinese and the Iron Road: Building the Transcontinental Railroad in North America* (Stanford University Press, 2019), 329-345.

"Before Restriction Became Exclusion: America's Experiment in Diplomatic Immigration Control," excerpted in Lon Kurashige and Alice Yang ed., *Major Problems in Asian American History*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (Boston: Cengage Learning, 2016): 79-85.

"Angel Island" in ed. Mary Yu Danico, *Asian American Society*. Sage Publications, Inc. (2014).

"Chinese Immigration," in Kathleen Arnold ed., *Anti-Immigration in the United States: A Historical Encyclopedia*. California, ABC-CLIO (2011).

### BOOK & FILM REVIEWS

John R. Wunder, *Gold Mountain Turned to Dust: Essays on the Legal History of the Chinese in the Nineteenth-Century American West* in *Journal of Arizona History* (Summer 2019): 229-231

Ric Burns and Li-Shin Yu dir., "The Chinese Exclusion Act," *American Historical Review* (February 2019): 178-180.

"Racism, Egalitarianism and Asian Exclusion," *Reviews in American History* (December 2017): 627-633.

Richard Jean So, *Transpacific Community: America, China, and the Rise and Fall of a Cultural Network* in *Journal of Chinese Overseas* 13 (2017): 143-158.

Elliott Young, *Alien Nation: Chinese Migration in the Americas From the Coolie Era Through World War II* in *The Pacific Historical Review* 85, no. 2 (May 2016): 298-299.

Huping Ling, *Chinese Chicago: Race, Transnational Migration, and Community since 1870*, in *The Journal of American Ethnic History* 33, no. 3 (Spring 2014): 88-89.

Kornel Chang, *Pacific Connections: The Making of the U.S.-Canadian Borderlands*, in *H-Diplo* XV., no. 24 (2014): 7-10.

Emma Teng, *Eurasian: Mixed Identities in the United States, China and Hong Kong, 1842-1943* in *Modern Chinese Literature and Culture* (November 2013).

Sue Fawn Chung, *In Pursuit of Gold: Chinese American Miners and Merchants in the American West*, in *Labour / Le Travail* 17 (Spring 2013): 271-273.

## **PUBLIC WRITING**

"Memorializing African American Lynching Victims is Past Due. But it Must be Only the Start," *Washington Post*, May 13, 2018

"For a Child Migrant, days feel like a Lifetime when you're Imprisoned and Alone," *Public Radio International: The World*, June 20, 2018

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### **PRINCETON**

Research Methods in American History (graduate seminar)  
 Asian American History (lecture)  
 Migrants and Borders (seminar)  
 Violence in America (seminar)

### **NORTHWESTERN**

American Immigration History (lecture)  
 U.S. Race and Foreign Relations (seminar)  
 The Chinese American Experience (lecture)  
 Race and Gender in the American West (lecture)  
 Immigration, Nativism and Border Control (seminar)

## **CONFERENCES & PRESENTATIONS**

### **CONFERENCE ORGANIZING**

March 2018    Convener, "In Search of Fortune: Migration and Risk in the Pacific World," symposium, Shelby Cullom Davis Center, Princeton University

### **INVITED PRESENTATIONS**

- Dec. 2019 "Chinese Exclusion and the Making of the Alien in America," Southern Methodist University
- Oct. 2019 Immigration and the American State Seminar, Yale Law School
- May 2019 "Paper Lives of Chinese Migrants and the History of the Undocumented in America," University of New Orleans
- March 2019 "Paper Lives of Chinese Migrants and the History of the Undocumented in America," Newberry Seminar in Borderlands and Latino Studies, IL
- March 2019 Roundtable on Reconstruction and Citizenship, Duke Law School
- Jan. 2019 "Mary Chinaman: Trafficking, Runaways and the Law in the American West," Stanford University
- Jan. 2019 "The Violence of Chinese Exclusion," Bullock Museum of Texas History
- Oct. 2018 "The Chinese Must Go: Violence, Exclusion, and the Making of the Alien in America," Emory University
- April 2018 "The Chinese Must Go: Violence, Exclusion, and the Making of the Alien in America," Levine Lecture, Rider University
- Nov. 2016 "Chinese Exclusion and the Making of the Modern American Alien," Columbia University
- April 2016 "Chinese Exclusion, Racial Violence and the Problem of Scale," Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, NJ
- Sept. 2016 "The Making of the Modern American Alien," Princeton University
- March 2016 "Chinese Exclusion and Today's Immigration Policy," New School, NY
- April 2015 "'Chinamen' and 'Delinquent Girls,'" Modern America Workshop, Princeton University
- April 2015 "Mapping Chinese America: Exploring the Meaning of Spatial History," Managing Borders: An Interdisciplinary Conference on American Immigration, Columbia University
- Nov. 2013 "Anti-Chinese Violence and the Making of Border Control: A Problem of Scale," Keynote Event, Buffett Center, Northwestern University
- April 2013 "Extra-Legal Border Enforcement in America, 1882-1888," Newberry Seminar in Borderlands and Latino Studies, IL

#### CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- April 2019 Chair, "How to Construct Narratives: History Section Roundtable," Association for Asian American Studies, Madison, WI
- Oct. 2018 "Global Narratives of Migration," Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany
- Oct. 2018 "Policing Race, Crime, and the Border in the Pacific Northwest," Western History Association, San Antonio, TX
- June 2018 Roundtable on the Legacy of the Fourteenth Amendment, Society of Civil War Historians, Pittsburg, PA
- April 2018 "What informs Asian American History Today," Organization of American Historians, Sacramento, CA
- March 2018 Searching for Asian American History in Legal Archives, Association of Asian American Studies, San Francisco, CA
- Jan. 2018 "America's Chinatowns: Immigrant Segregation in the Nineteenth Century," American Historical Association, Washington, DC

- May 2017 "The Transformation of Citizenship and Alienage in 19<sup>th</sup>-Century America," Undocumented Conference, Princeton University
- April 2017 "Chinese Self-Care in the Face of Racial Violence," Association for Asian American Studies, Portland, OR
- April 2016 "The Remarkable Life of a Sometimes Railroad Worker: Chin Gee Hee, 1844-1929," Chinese Railroad Workers in North America Conference, Stanford University
- March 2016 "'Chinamen' and 'Delinquent Girls': Intimacy, Exclusion and a Search for California's Color Line," Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, NJ
- Jan. 2016 "Chinese Exclusion and U.S. Imperialism: Reconciling the Open Door with the Closed Gate," American Historical Association, Atlanta, Georgia
- Oct. 2015 "How to Succeed in Railroad Work: The Remarkable Life of Chin Gee Hee, 1844-1928," American Studies Association, Toronto, Canada
- April 2015 "Tradition and Taboo in Asian American history," Organization of American Historians, St. Louis, Missouri
- April 2015 "Mapping the Impact of Anti-Chinese Violence," Association for Asian American Studies, Evanston, IL (panel organizer)
- Jan. 2015 "Anti-Chinese Violence and the National Significance of Local Vigilantism," American Historical Association, New York, NY
- April 2014 "Chinese Exclusion and the Reimagining of American Imperialism in China," Organization of American Historians, Atlanta, GA
- Nov. 2013 "The Chinese Must Go: The Violent Birth of American Border Control," manuscript workshop, Northwestern University
- May 2013 "The Loyal," Asian American Studies Program Salon, Northwestern University
- April 2013 "Rape Across Another Color Line: Chinese Men Accused of Sexual Crimes," Association for Asian American Studies, Seattle, Washington
- May 2012 "Anti-Chinese Violence and the Rise of Chinese Exclusion," Western Association of Women Historians, Berkeley, California
- March 2012 "Before Restriction Became Exclusion," Organization of American Historians, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
- Oct. 2011 "Chinese Crossing the Line: Immigration Control along the U.S.-Canadian Border in the Pacific Northwest, Western Historical Association, Oakland, California
- June 2010 "The Loyal," Western Dissertation Workshop, University of California, Davis
- April 2010 "The Question of Resistance: Chinese Response to Violence in the Pacific Northwest, 1885-86," Association for Asian American Studies Conference, Austin, Texas
- April 2010 "The Chinese Must Go: Immigration, Deportation and Violence in the Pacific Northwest, 1882-1892," Institute for Research in the Humanities, University of Wisconsin – Madison

#### **PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS**

- April 2019 Screening and Talk back on "The Chinese Exclusion Act (2017)," Princeton Public Library

March 2019 "The Chinese Must Go: Violence, Exclusion, and the Making of the Alien in America," Museum of Chinese in America, NY

Jan. 2019 "The Chinese Must Go: Violence, Exclusion, and the Making of the Alien in America," California Historical Society

Nov. 2018 Reading *The Chinese Must Go*, Labyrinth Books, Princeton, NJ

Nov. 2018 Interview, Politics and Polls Podcast

Aug. 2018 "The Chinese Must Go: Violence, Exclusion, and the Making of the Alien in America," Princeton Alumni Association, Palo Alto, CA

July 2018 "The Chinese Must Go: Violence, Exclusion, and the Making of the Alien in America," Oakland Asian Cultural Center, CA

July 2018 Reading *The Chinese Must Go*, The Avid Reader, Davis, CA

June 2018 Interview, Public Radio International's The World

May 2018 Interview, Law Business Insider

March 2018 Talk back and Screening of *The Chinese Exclusion Act* (2018), ArtQuest Center at SteelStacks, Bethlehem, PA

March 2018 Interview, New Books Network Podcast

April 2018 "Chinese Exclusion and the Making of Modern American Alien," Princeton Adult School, Princeton, NJ

April 2018 "Alien in America?" Rockefeller College, Princeton University

July 2016 The Chinese Exclusion Act and Immigration in America, NEH Summer Institute, New York, NY

March 2015 "The Meanings of Chinese Exclusion," International Day for the Elimination of Racism, Princeton University

## SERVICE

### THE FIELD

2019-2022 Ray Allen Billington Award Committee, Western History Association

2018-2021 Executive Board Member, Immigration and Ethnic History Society

2018-2022 Editorial Board Member, *Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era*

2018- History Section Chair, Association for Asian American Studies

Ad Hoc Reviewer: *Amerasia*, *American Historical Review*, *American Quarterly*, *Columbia University Press*, *Journal for Immigration and Ethnic History*, *Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era*, *Journal of Overseas Chinese*, *Journal of Policy History*, *Oxford University Press*, *Pacific Historical Review*

### PRINCETON

2018- Associated Faculty, Asian American/Diasporic Studies

2017-2018 Executive Subcommittee on Asian American/Diasporic Studies

2017-2018 Executive Secretary, Shelby Cullom Davis Center

2016-2017 Core Member, Migration Lab, Sawyer Seminar & Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies Research Group

2016-2018 Member, Committee on Undergraduate Admissions and Financial Aid

2015- Executive Committee, Program in American Studies

2015- Associated Faculty, Program in Gender and Sexuality  
Oct. 2015 "Asian American Studies Today," Asian/Asian American Alumni Conference  
May 2015 "Asian American Studies at Princeton," Alumni Reunions

#### **NORTHWESTERN**

Oct. 2013 Organizer and Presenter, "Universal Design: Rethinking how to Teach Students with (and without) Disabilities," Searle Center Faculty Workshops

#### **STANFORD**

2007-2008 Department Teacher Training Liaison, Center for Teaching and Learning  
2005-2007 Graduate Student Advisory Committee Member, Bill Lane Center for the Study of the American West  
2005-2006 Coordinator, Stanford Humanities Center Asian Americas Workshop

#### **THE PUBLIC**

2014- Participant, Chinese Railroad Workers in North America Project, Stanford University (<https://www.stanford.edu/group/chineserailroad/cgi-bin/wordpress/>)  
2013-2014 Consultant, Chinese Exclusion/Inclusion Exhibit, New York Historical Society

#### **MEMBERSHIPS**

American Historical Association  
American Studies Association  
Association for Asian Americans Studies  
Immigration and Ethnic History Society  
Organization of American Historians  
Society for Historians of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era  
Western History Association